

**City of Bloomington
Telecommunications Council
Business Meeting – August 8th, 2013**

**Common Council Chambers
City Hall at the Showers Building
401 N. Morton St.**

I. Members Present: Carl Zager, Thom Gillespie and Eric Ost

Members Absent: Duane Busick

Note: There is one vacant position available on the Telecommunications Council.

II. Public Comment – Lennon Beasley, local producer

- Has been filming sermons of the pastor of Springhill Christian Church in Mooresville, IN. The production of these sermons will be called “Inspirational Today” and will air on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m.
- He will also continue filming “Worship Celebrations”.

Thom Gillespie – Asked Lennon if the bowling alley set aside special lanes for him to film his bowling practice show.

Lennon Beasley – I go to Classic Lanes every Thursday at 12 p.m. and leave about 5-6 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes:

June 4th Minutes - Carl Zager made a motion to accept the minutes. Thom Gillespie seconded the motion. June minutes had been updated with the section of video that was missing. The question was called and all were in favor.

July 2nd Minutes - Carl Zager motioned that the minutes be accepted. Thom Gillespie seconded the motion. Eric Ost stated that he would like to be granted permission to contact the individual that does the minutes for the meeting. The question was called, and all were in favor.

IV. Reports and Announcements

1. Telecom Members: None

2. CATS – Martin O’Neill

* Local Programming

* Monthly highlights: Monroe County Sports Hall of Fame 2013 Graduation Banquet, Monroe County Fair Queen’s Contest, and Monroe County Fair Amateur Talent Show.

*CATS is now available on AT&T U-verse system. On the U-verse system residents can access the PEG channels. This availability began back in July. Residents can access PEG channels by going to channel 99 and scroll down a menu.

Thom Gillespie – Have you had any citizen feedback from customers now being able to view PEG channels?

Martin O’Neill – We’ve had a few calls thanking us for being there. They aren’t happy with the way channels are being presented on the cable system. Small steps are being taken.

Eric Ost – Can you explain to viewers how exactly to get to the channels. Are they listed in alphabetical order?

Martin O’Neill – I haven’t actually accessed it yet, but I believe they are listed in a regional order.

Eric Ost – For the September meeting, would CATS be willing to provide a description of how to access the PEG Channels on the AT&T U-verse system for the public?

Martin O’Neill – Yes, we could do that.

IV. WTIU – No report

V. Information from or about Video Service Provider – No Report

VI. Old Business –

Carl Zager – At the June meeting, the council entered into record that they had some concerns with the franchise fee payments. A work session was planned and executed earlier in July, at which the council reviewed the concerns and created a report.

*Draft of report was read by Carl Zager

Eric Ost - Thanked Carl for writing the majority of the draft and summarizing what the council feels are major concerns. As well as, stressing the concern that the council feels some investigation needs to be done.

Thom Gillespie – Who do we send the report to?

Carl Zager - Board of Public Works, the Mayor, the City Council, Monroe County Commissioners, and the Ellettsville Town Council.

Eric Ost – There has been contact made to the county to try to retrieve the county's franchise fee numbers to see if there is any variation. As far as I know, the payment adjustment from Comcast to the city is not decreasing the franchise payment to the county. This makes the payment even more mysterious to the Telecom Council.

Carl Zager - Are we going to add any recommendations to the report? There is the option that the city could request that Comcast books be audited.

Eric Ost – I think since we are an advisory board, we should recommend that the city at least get a detailed explanation of why this adjustment happened. If the explanation is not sufficient, then the council would recommend that the city pursue the full gamut of its options. The suggestion of an audit would be a decision that the mayor, city council or controller would need to make.

Carl Zager requested that Eric put his recommendation in the form of a motion. Carl Zager will create a cover letter, and add the recommendation section to the draft. Then the report and cover letter would be sent the five groups. Thom Gillespie will arrange a meeting with the Board of Public Works for the council to introduce the report.

Motioned was made by Eric Ost to add the following recommendation to the report draft: "The City should at least get a detailed explanation of why this adjustment happened." If the explanation is not sufficient, then the council would recommend that the city pursue the full gamut of its options. The motion was seconded by Carl Zager. The question was called and all were in favor.

VII. New Business - None

VII. Adjournment

Thom Gillespie motioned for adjournment.

Next Regular Meeting

September 3rd, 2013

Common Council Chambers in City Hall at the Showers Building
401 N. Morton St.

Submitted by:

Stephanie Jachim 8/18/2013